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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

SHANTUNG CENTRALIZES FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES;
INDUSTRIES AND MINES INCREASE PRODUCTION

SETS UP NATIONAL MONOPOLY CORPORATION BRANCHES -- Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao,
14 Apr 50

Tsinan, 12 April (Hsin-hua) -- In accordance with the decision of the Administration Council of the Central People's government to centralize national financial and economic activities, and national trade, the Shantung Provincial Trade Corporation was dissolved on 8 April 1950, and in its place, the following branches of the national monopoly corporations were established: (1) Shantung Branch, National Foodstuffs Corporation; (2) Tsinan Branch, National Cotton and Yarn Corporation; (3) Shantung Branch, National Native Products Corporation; (4) Shantung Branch, National Sundries Corporation; (5) Shantung Branch, National Salt Industry Corporation; and (6) Tsinan Branch, National Egg Corporation.

In addition to the above, monopoly trade agencies in the fields of vegetable oil, hog bristle, petroleum, export, etc., are to be established at Tsingtao. Plans are also being made by the various monopoly corporations to set up branches and agencies in the major cities by the 15th of this month in accordance with needs.

The Department of Industry and Commerce of the Shantung Provincial People's government also announced that retail corporations and business stores will be established at Tsinan, Tsingtao, and Suchow to retail commodities directly to the consumers. This move is expected to help stabilize prices and allow the department to control the retail markets.

INDUSTRIAL PLANTS BOOMING IN K'AI-FENG -- Shanghai Wen-hui Pao, 11 Apr 50

Cheng-chou -- Three spinning mills, one tobacco factory and one match factory have moved from Shanghai to K'ai-feng. The T'ien-tung Spinning Mill buildings and installations are ready for operation. The company has secured a capital loan of 300 million yuan, and expects to commence operations at an early date. Its manager is Yang Shuo-fen.

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The 2,660 spindles of the Mien-hsing Spinning Mill were moved to K'ai-feng and combined with the I-ta Spinning Mill of Wu-hsi under the name I-Hsin Spinning Mill. The mill engineer, Chang Chiung-jao, is now arranging for the removal of the Wu-hsi plant to K'ai-feng. It is expected that operations will begin early in May 1950.

The Chen-hsing Spinning Mill of Wu-hsi has also decided to move to K'ai-feng, but has not yet suspended work in Wu-hsi. Hence it will be some time before work can start in K'ai-feng although the buildings have already been secured.

The Lung-hua Tobacco Factory has been in operation for 2 months. Finding a good market for their products, they have increased their capacity by 50 percent. Their production of Golden Dragon cigarettes is over 20 cases per day.

On 16 March the Yu-ming Match Factory of Shanghai began trial operations in K'ai-feng. It manufactures Black Head Safety Matches which are much cheaper than other brands. After the arrival of additional technicians and workers and the adjustment of wages, regular production, estimated at 20 cases per day, will begin. Locally poplar wood is cheaper and more plentiful than in Shanghai; and since chemicals can be obtained from Tsingtao, much saving in transportation costs is possible. The operation of these factories and mills will soon make K'ai-feng a busy and prosperous place.

ELECTROCHEMICAL PLANT RESUMES OPERATIONS -- Hangchow Chekiang Jih-pao, 14 Apr 50

On 11 April, production was resumed in the Hangchow government-owned Ta-t'ung Electrochemical Factory which was damaged by explosions resulting from mechanical defects and the reactions of chemical and natural elements, on 17 February 1950. However, plant workers immediately began to repair the damaged facilities. The explosion demolished two buildings and all equipment. Damage cost was placed at 50 million yuan.

With the aid of an engineer from Shanghai and other construction personnel, reconstruction of the buildings and replacement of the equipment was completed 5 days ahead of schedule. The plant produces soda, bleach, etc.

LUNG-YEN IRON MINES BEING RESTORED -- Pei-ping Kung-jen Jih-pao, 14 Apr 50

Kalgan, 13 April (Hsin-hua) -- Installations at P'ang-chia-pao Mine and Yen-t'ung-shan Mine of the Lung-yen Iron Mines of the government-operated North China Steel Company are being repaired. The Yen-t'ung-shan Mine has already been placed in operation while the P'ang-chia-pao Mine will not be able to produce until June 1950. The Lung-yen machinery, gun powder, and oxygen plants have resumed operation.

The Lung-yen Iron Mines are considered one of China's largest. The deposits are estimated at 400 million tons, of 40 to 62 percent pure iron. Under Japanese control, over 12,000 workers were employed by the mines.

The P'ang-chia-pao Mine was equipped with machinery, but the Nationalists destroyed the machinery completely.

Since mining at Yen-t'ung-shan Mine was done entirely by hand, it was the first project repaired after liberation. The mine has been fully restored and electrical equipment installed. At present, the daily production is 30 percent of its previous capacity.

Construction work on dormitory and administration buildings began in April. Repair work on the P'ang-chia-pao railroad began on 11 March and was completed 6 April.

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STEEL COMPANY SETS NEW DAILY PRODUCTION RECORD -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao,
14 Apr 50

During the first quarter of 1950, the Shanghai Steel Company set a new daily production record for its three plants. The three furnaces in the first plant produced a total of 45.3 tons of steel, the second plant produced 42 tons of pressed steel, and the four furnaces in the third plant produced 40.6 tons of refined steel.

Because of its improved processing methods, the Shanghai Steel Company, using 10 percent less raw materials, was able to refine 98 percent more steel during the first quarter of 1950 than it did during the fourth quarter of 1949.

INCREASES STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION -- Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao, 14 Apr 50

Under the guidance of Soviet technicians, the processing methods for the manufacture of steel ingots at the Tientsin Steel Works were greatly improved, resulting in the increase in production by more than 40 percent.

LARGE QUANTITIES OF MACHINERY FOUND IN TIENSIN WAREHOUSES -- Tientsin Jih-pao,
16 Apr 50

The Tientsin Property Liquidation Department of the Ministry of Finance reported that it has completed inventory in 14 of the 23 warehouses in Tientsin. Most of the property was left by the Japanese, although some stocks of goods formerly belonged to the Nationalists.

Most of the items listed so far are toilet articles, clothing, textiles, canned food, automobile spare parts, construction materials, etc., whose value would be equivalent to nearly 175 million catties of rice. Items stored in the rest of the warehouses include farm implements, industrial machinery, electric generators and motors, machinery spare parts, and construction materials. There are several hundreds of large and small electric generators and electric motors, most of which are usable with minor repairs. The types of machinery found include ice-making, leather-processing, straw-cutting, well-digging, clothes-washing, water-purifying, oil-purifying, paper-making, and flour-milling machines, road-construction machinery, cement mixers, etc., to the number of over 1,000 units. It is estimated that when all are listed, the total value will equal 200 million catties of rice.

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